United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement on Adoption of the 2006 Unified Budget

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Kyle Scott to the Permanent Council, Vienna December 20, 2005

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I too would like to say that my delegation is very pleased to join in this consensus adoption of the 2006 Unified Budget and to thank you and your team, as well as the Chairman of the ACMF, for all of their diligence in bringing about a budget according to timetable set out in Decision 553. We see this as a truly important move. It represents a major step forward in solidifying our organization's financial foundations.

We would like to also thank all of our colleagues around the table for the flexibility that they showed in the discussions of this budget, the adoption of which marks the participating State's recommitment to the OSCE and its activities. We certainly look forward in the coming year to building on the goodwill that this decision reflects.

With the decisions on the budget and scales I think that we have now laid the groundwork to allow the OSCE to focus on its activities and not just on its inward processes.

We look forward to the coming year. With these solid foundations in place, the energy we devote to our work in this organization can now be focused outward, not inward. We should, concentrate on doing the important work of this organization in spreading democracy and freedom, monitoring and ensuring participating States' fulfillment of our shared commitments and values, contributing to solutions to regional conflicts and continuing its very extremely valuable day-to-day work on confidence building measures in the area of security and arms control.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.